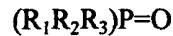


It is claimed:

1. An eye drop composition, useful to reduce eye discomfort, comprising:
one or more doses of a buffered, isotonic ophthalmic solution having therein
5 a pharmaceutically effective amount of a trialkyl phosphine oxide of Formula
1

Formula 1



wherein R_1 is an alkyl radical containing at least 3 carbon atoms, R_2 is an
10 alkyl radical containing at least 3 carbon atoms or a cycloalkyl radical, R_3 is
an alkyl radical, and R_1 , R_2 and R_3 total of from 13-17 carbon atoms, wherein
the one or more doses are adapted for therapeutic efficacy in treating eye
discomfort by including one or more of:

15 a.) a selection of R_1 as n-C₅H₁₁, n-C₆H₁₃, n-C₇H₁₅ or n-C₈H₁₇, R_2 as iso-
 C_3H_7 , sec-C₄H₉, , tert-C₄H₉ or iso-C₅H₁₁ and R_3 as n-C₃H₇, iso-C₃H₇,
sec-C₄H₉, or n-C₄H₉;
b.) an adjunct to reduce irritancy from the trialkyl phosphine oxide; and
c.) instructions to the user for applying the solution indirectly to the eye.

20 2. The eye drop composition as in claim 1 wherein the eye drop composition
is substantially non-astringent.
3. The eye drop composition as in claim 1 wherein the adjunct, if present, is
an ophthalmic demulcent.
4. The eye drop composition as in claim 1 wherein the adjunct, if present, is a
25 hydrocarbon polyol.
5. The eye drop composition as in claim 1 wherein the instructions, if present,
are carried on packaging associated with the one or more doses.
6. The eye drop composition as in claim 1 wherein the instructions, if present,
are on an insert associated with the one or more doses.

7. The eye drop composition as in claim 1 wherein the trialkyl phosphine oxide is in a concentration of from about 0.001 weight percent to about 0.5 weight percent (10 µg/ml to 5 mg/ml) per dose.

8. A method of reducing eye discomfort in a user, comprising:

5 providing a buffered, isotonic ophthalmic solution having therein a pharmaceutically effective amount of a trialkyl phosphine oxide of Formula 1

Formula 1



wherein R₁ is an alkyl radical containing at least 3 carbon atoms, R₂ is an
10 alkyl radical containing at least 3 carbon atoms or a cycloalkyl radical, R₃ is an alkyl radical, and R₁, R₂ and R₃ total of from 13-17 carbon atoms, wherein the solution is either provided as a unit dose or is determinable as a unit dose; and, instructing the solution user to administer the unit dose onto the nasal corner (medial canthus) of an eye and to keep the eye closed for at least one
15 minute after the administration.

9. The method as in claim 8 wherein the dose is administered to the nasal corner while the eye is closed.

10. The method as in claim 8 wherein the trialkyl phosphine oxide is in a concentration of from about 0.001 weight percent to about 0.5 weight percent
20 (10 µg/ml to 5 mg/ml) per dose.

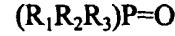
11. The method as in claim 8 wherein the solution includes an adjunct to reduce irritancy from the trialkyl phosphine oxide.

12. The method as in claim 11 wherein the adjunct is an ophthalmic demulcent.

25 13. The method as in claim 11 wherein the adjunct is a hydrocarbon polyol.

14. An ophthalmic composition, comprising:
30 a pharmaceutically effective amount of a trialkyl phosphine oxide of Formula 1

Formula 1



wherein R₁ is R₁ is n-C₅H₁₁, n-C₆H₁₃, n-C₇H₁₅ or n-C₈H₁₇, R₂ is iso-C₃H₇, sec-C₄H₉, , tert-C₄H₉ or iso-C₅H₁₁ and R₃ is n-C₃H₇, iso-C₃H₇, sec-C₄H₉, or n-C₄H₉.

15 The composition as in claim 14 wherein the trialkyl phosphine oxide is
5 carried in a buffered, isotonic solution.

16. The composition as in claim 15 wherein the solution is substantially non-astringent.

17. The composition as in claim 15 wherein the trialkyl phosphine oxide is in
a concentration of from about 0.001 weight percent to about 0.5 weight
percent (10 µg/ml to 5 mg/ml) per dose

18. A method of relieving eye discomfort, comprising:

administering a dose of an ophthalmic composition, comprising:
a trialkyl phosphine oxide of Formula 1

Formula 1

15 $(R_1R_2R_3)P=O$

wherein R₁ is n-C₅H₁₁, n-C₆H₁₃, n-C₇H₁₅ or n-C₈H₁₇, R₂ is iso-C₃H₇, sec-C₄H₉, tert-C₄H₉ or iso-C₅H₁₁ and R₃ is n-C₃H₇, iso-C₃H₇, sec-C₄H₉, or n-C₄H₉, the trialkyl phosphine oxide administered being in a pharmaceutically effective amount.

20 19. The method as in claim 18 wherein wherein the trialkyl phosphine oxide
is in a concentration of from about 0.001 weight percent to about 0.5 weight
percent (10 µg/ml to 5 mg/ml) per dose.

20. The method as in claim 18 wherein the ophthalmic composition is substantially non-astringent.